

MINUTES FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
MEETING AND GREEN TEAM MEETING

Tuesday, March 27, 2018 - 7:30 pm – Community Center

Members present: Ron Bjorkland, Matt Dirksen, Eva Fallon

Excused absences: Josh Hamlin, John Lippert, Jane Young, Michael Hartman,

Visitors: Tom Taylor, Michael Travis, Harriette Phelps, Bill Orleans, Alex Barns

Liaisons: Luisa Robles (staff) and Colin Byrd (council)

Call to order: 7:35 pm

1. Adult mosquito control discussion. Eva read all the County information and says that it is easy to catch the mosquitos and ID the females (photo enlargement). If we find lots of females we can ask for a check on Zika or West Nile virus. Spraying is ineffective. Ron emailed the 3 people John had recommended (Stephen Hight, Paula Melton, Robert Bushbum). No response except Paula, but she said she could not help. Michael T mentioned the Massachusetts Audubon society site – position: call for mosquito control reform and FAQ. Measures on how to control at the regional scale, involve storm water and landscaping departments, stress green infrastructure, rain gardens not holding ponds, Ron suggests to take their format and Greenbeltify it, do outreach education. Ron can put a blurb together. For outreach, we could ask the Food COOP to show a sample trap that people can make. Eva will hold a workshop on making traps on April 14 at Maker Festival: brewers yeast, 2 liter bottles, duck tape. Tom's neighbors have a tent catcher that seems to not be too expensive, or CO2 traps, or a fan. Michael Travis asked to coordinate with GHI for standing water in swales. Luisa to contact Susan Harris about this and outreach. And ask for 2L bottles from Greenbelters.
2. Updates from **Sustainability Framework** / Green Team Circles.
 - 3.1 **Energy** / Solar. – Springhill Lake Recreation Center solar panels project is coming along. A vendor has been chosen. RFP for solar farm is out.
 - 3.2 **Food Systems** / Sustainable Landcare. –
 - 3.3 **Green Building**. -
 - 3.4 **Land Use** / Planning / Pathways of Sustainability. -
 - 3.5 **Transportation**. – MEA MSEC 2018 grant awarded \$15,000.00 to purchase an EV and to install a charging station.
 - 3.6 Time Bank / Local Economies. – Social on April 28
 - 3.7 **Waste Management** / Zero Waste. Update by Hally – Worm Wigwams at New Deal Cafe: Beth is operating one Wigwam by feeding partially composted, via hot compost, the first bin. When John and Jane return the other two Wigwams will "worm up." Food buckets are still being transported off site until all three Wigwams are operational.

Hot compost station at Springhill Lake Rec: 27 families have been trained and have begun dropping food scraps at the Springhill Lake Rec hot-compost station. Participants can come at times when a greeter is available on Saturdays, or use the combination locks to drop off any time. Michael Travis is building two mixing boards. All tools are purchased, but we are still waiting for the wheelbarrow to come in at Lowe's Largo.

In-home vermicomposting workshops by Public Works: Jason Martin has picked up wood for the vermicompost feet; the 200 Totes plastic bins for the project will arrive this week. Four corded drills and 1/4" and 1/16" drills are ready for pickup at Lowe's Largo, but we are waiting for wheelbarrow to come in before pickup. Jason plans to demonstrate building

an in-home vermicomposter in the shared Public Works/ZWC booth at Green Man on May 12, and 13. Luisa will help make kits at Makers Fair on April 14.

Who can help at Green Man Festival? Tom T., Harriette P., Ron B., and Michael T. said they could.

The Organics task force is interviewing municipalities, different operations, next month might be able to report on it.

An attendant asked where can Lithium batteries be recycled? At MOMs, Greenbelt Electronics Recycling events, and weekly at PGC e-cycling. Little dime/button batteries are collected at Beltway Plaza at Bing Jeweler.

3.8 Water / Stream / Stormwater Restoration. – Ribbon cutting rain garden dedication April 22 at 2 pm. Earth Day!

3. Michael Travis brought up a report where some residents asked the City to investigate the possibility of using push mowers and other green tools for landscaping in the City. Jason Martin put some information together. The requesting group had additional questions. Jason addressed them. Basically what the report said was that as equipment needs to be replaced, the City will look into purchasing electric options. However, technology is not there yet for larger applications.
3. Upcoming events: Sierra Club MRF tour May 4, Friday.
PGC Pet waste management summit. 3/29, Largo, 6:00-9:00pm
April 24 meeting at Roosevelt High School on “widening the beltway”. This is one of the highway projects affecting Greenbelt.
4. Bill Orleans brought up the development of the Capital Office Park empty lot. Also the plans for a new gas station in the Golden triangle near the Capitol Cadillac.
5. Councilman Colin Byrd asked, referring to Sustainable Maryland Certified: We are #2; who is #1? And, how can we be #1? Takoma Park is #1. Greenbelt can be #1 next time by implementing more policies for things we are already doing. SMC is very policy oriented and many points are awarded for that. Send link to all including Colin to implement policies.
6. For future agendas:
 - *County’s Clean Water Partnership Program -dredge and improve Greenbrook Lake (by Schrom Hills Park), and possibility of a stream improvement project upstream from Greenbrook Lake. The engineering consultant (Soltesz) would like to brief Green ACES on the proposed project. Ro(n?) says to educate and “zap” the people that live around there, as that reservoir is always full of trash.
 - *MSEC goal of reducing fuel usage. City of Hyattsville example of Police EV and inverters in the trunk so their computers can remain on and the vehicle turned off (no idling).
 - *Green Streets/Complete Streets City of Greenbelt Policy.

Adjourn 9:00 pm